

Appl. No. 10/072,697
Amtdt.AF dated November 23, 2004
Reply to Final Office Action of September 23, 2004

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Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Previously Presented) A surgical clip, comprising:
a first piece comprising a first base having a first projection extending from the first base;
a second piece comprising a second base having a second projection extending from the second base, wherein the second projection includes multiple surfaces defining a reservoir therein; and
the first piece and the second piece are detachably connectable when the first projection passes into the reservoir,
wherein the multiple surfaces include a top surface which comprises a puncturable material and a side surface, the side surface including one or more apertures.
2. (Original) The surgical clip in accordance with claim 1, wherein the first base is substantially circular.
3. (Original) The surgical clip in accordance with claim 1, wherein the second base is substantially circular.
4. (Original) The surgical clip in accordance with claim 1, wherein the multiple surfaces define a generally cylindrical surface.
5. (Original) The surgical clip in accordance with claim 1, wherein the first projection extends substantially perpendicular relative to the first base.
6. (Original) The surgical clip in accordance with claim 1, wherein the second projection extends substantially perpendicular relative to the second base.

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7. (Cancelled)

8. (Previously Presented) The surgical clip in accordance with claim 1, wherein the first projection is adapted to pierce through the top surface.

9. (Original) The surgical clip in accordance with claim 1, wherein the reservoir of the second projection contains a therapeutic agent.

10. (Previously Presented) A surgical clip, comprising:

a first piece comprising a first base having a first projection extending from the first base;

a second piece comprising a second base having a second projection extending from the second base, wherein the second projection includes multiple surfaces defining a reservoir therein;

the first piece and the second piece are detachably connectable when the first projection passes into the reservoir;

wherein the multiple surfaces include a top surface which comprises a puncturable material and a side surface, the side surface including one or more apertures;

wherein the reservoir of the second projection contains a therapeutic agent; and

wherein the therapeutic agent includes a sclerosing agent.

11. (Previously Presented) The surgical clip in accordance with claim 1, wherein at least one aperture is sized to allow the flow of a therapeutic agent out of the reservoir after the first piece and second piece are detachably connected.

12. (Previously Presented) A surgical clip, comprising:

a first piece comprising a first base having a first projection extending from the first base;

a second piece comprising a second base having a second projection extending from the second base, wherein the second projection includes multiple surfaces defining a reservoir therein;

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the first piece and the second piece are detachably connectable when the first projection passes into the reservoir;

wherein the multiple surfaces include a top surface which comprises a puncturable material; and

wherein the first piece and the second piece are manufactured from bioabsorbable materials.

13. (Previously Presented) A surgical clip, comprising:

a first piece comprising a first base having a first projection extending from the first base;

a second piece comprising a second base having a second projection extending from the second base, wherein the second projection further comprises a top surface, at least one side surface and a bottom surface, the surfaces defining a reservoir therein which contains a therapeutic agent;

the second projection further comprising at least one aperture disposed along the side surface and sized to allow the flow of the therapeutic agent out of the reservoir; and

the first piece and the second piece can be detachably connected by extending the first projection into the reservoir.

14. (Previously Presented) A surgical clip, comprising:

a first piece comprising a first base having a first projection extending from the first base;

a second piece comprising a second base having a second projection extending from the second base, wherein the second projection further comprises a top surface, at least one side surface and a bottom surface, the surfaces defining a reservoir therein which contains a therapeutic agent;

the second projection further comprising at least one aperture disposed along the side surface and sized to allow the flow of the therapeutic agent out of the reservoir;

the first piece and the second piece can be detachably connected by extending the first projection into the reservoir; and

wherein the therapeutic agent is a sclerosing agent.

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15. (Previously Presented) The surgical clip in accordance with claim 13, wherein the reservoir is sized such that the mating of the first projection with the second projection forces the therapeutic agent to flow out of the at least one aperture.

16. (Previously Presented) A method for using a surgical clip, comprising the steps of:
providing a surgical clip comprising a first piece including a first base and a first projection extending from the first base, a second piece including a second base, and a second projection extending from the second base wherein the second projection further comprises a top surface, at least one side surface and a bottom surface, the surfaces defining a reservoir therein, the reservoir containing a therapeutic agent, the second projection further comprising at least one aperture disposed along the side surface and sized to allow the flow of the therapeutic agent out of the reservoir, and the first piece and the second piece can be detachably connected;

identifying a tissue in need of being secured together, and placing the first piece and the second piece in proximity of the tissue; and

detachably connecting the first piece and the second piece by extending the first projection into the reservoir, wherein the tissue in need of being secured is secured and the therapeutic agent flows from the at least one aperture of the second projection.

17. (Previously Presented) A method for using a surgical clip, comprising the steps of:
providing a surgical clip comprising a first piece including a first base and a first projection extending from the first base, a second piece including a second base, and a second projection extending from the second base wherein the second projection further comprises a top surface, at least one side surface and a bottom surface, the surfaces defining a reservoir therein, the reservoir containing a therapeutic agent, the second projection further comprising at least one aperture disposed along the side surface and sized to allow the flow of the therapeutic agent out of the reservoir, and the first piece and the second piece can be detachably connected;

identifying a tissue in need of being secured together, and placing the first piece and the second piece in proximity of the tissue;

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detachably connecting the first piece and the second piece by extending the first projection into the reservoir, wherein the tissue in need of being secured is secured and the therapeutic agent flows from the at least one aperture of the second projection; and wherein the therapeutic agent is a sclerosing agent.

18. (Original) The method in accordance with claim 16, wherein the tissue includes a blood vessel.

19. (Previously Presented) A method for using a surgical clip, comprising the steps of:

providing a surgical clip comprising a first piece including a first base and a first projection extending from the first base, a second piece including a second base, and a second projection extending from the second base wherein the second projection further comprises a top surface, at least one side surface and a bottom surface, the surfaces defining a reservoir therein, the reservoir containing a therapeutic agent, the second projection further comprising at least one aperture sized to allow the flow of the therapeutic agent out of the reservoir, and the first piece and the second piece can be detachably connected;

identifying a tissue in need of being secured together, and placing the first piece and the second piece in proximity of the tissue;

detachably connecting the first piece and the second piece by extending the first projection into the reservoir, wherein the tissue in need of being secured is secured and the therapeutic agent flows from the at least one aperture of the second projection; and wherein the tissue includes a ligament.

20. (Previously Presented) A method for using a surgical clip, comprising the steps of:

providing a surgical clip comprising a first piece including a first base and a first projection extending from the first base, a second piece including a second base, and a second projection extending from the second base wherein the second projection further comprises a top surface, at least one side surface and a bottom surface, the surfaces defining a reservoir therein, the reservoir containing a therapeutic agent, the second projection further comprising at least one

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aperture sized to allow the flow of the therapeutic agent out of the reservoir, and the first piece and the second piece can be detachably connected;

identifying a tissue in need of being secured together, and placing the first piece and the second piece in proximity of the tissue;

detachably connecting the first piece and the second piece by extending the first projection into the reservoir, wherein the tissue in need of being secured is secured and the therapeutic agent flows from the at least one aperture of the second projection; and

wherein the tissue includes a tendon.

21. (Original) The method in accordance with claim 16, wherein the tissue includes skin.

22 – 24. (Cancelled)